

San Diego DX Club Bulletin



October 2013



Miss Phoebe is the 2nd op at WA6MHZ. Pat says “This is HER radio station, and I use it with her permission. She has been on the station for hundreds of DX Contacts!”

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved “Top of the Honor Roll” status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow “Big Guns” or “Little Pistols”, you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

For real time DX spotting and lively conversation on a variety of subjects, join us on 144.415 MHz.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

LARRY, N6NC, WILL EDUCATE US ON HOW TO USE CW SKIMMER
AND REVERSE BEACON OP-AIDS TO WORK MORE DX

OCTOBER MEETING NOTICE:

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER

AERO DRIVE & MURPHY CANYON RD

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2013

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M. DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

A Word from the Prez	2
Vice President 's Report	3
Secretary/Treasurer Rpt	4
SDDXC Top 10 & Results	5
How's DX	6
General Interest Items	7-9



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A Word from the Prez . . .

Dan Severance, N6ERD

THE OCTOBER MEETING WILL BE AT THE
SIZZLER.

CU There.

73, Dan, N6ERD

Vice President's Report

Wild Bill, WB6BFG



Greeting to all!

This month's meeting will be at the Sizzler as usual. I hope that some of you got to go to 2013 Pacificon Amateur Radio Convention and that you had a great time! Some of you know that I've been on the road an extraordinary amount of time. I've only been home for a couple of weeks and we're about to get on the plane for Japan for CQWW. We hope to work you in the CQWW SSB Contest as JA1YPA.

This month's presentation will be by our own world renowned author Larry Serra, N6NC. He has put together a program about the use of CW Skimmers and Reverse Beacon Network (RBN) for DX propagation, Judging Station Signal Strengths at DX Locations and using these as Propagation Tools & Antenna Relative Strength Testers. This might dispel some of the mystery about skimmers and skimmer information, and demonstrate its utility for DXers and contesters. This will be most informative. If you have any ideas on other programs that you'd like to see, please let me know.

A big round of thanks to Jim McCook, W6YA, for his informative presentation last month! I heard that it was well received.

For the short spell that I have been home the bands sure have been fun. The League's propagation report shows that the radio waves have been smiling at us and you can read about it here: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLP042/2013> Also you can check out NG3K's detailed list of active operations at this link <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

I hope that everyone has a lot of fun with the CQWW SSB contest happening at the end of the month. The dates are: 0000Z, Oct 26 to 2400Z, Oct 27, 2013 and more information can be found at <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

Prior to that there are a number of other contests to get involved in to test your equipment before the big one:

- **School Club Roundup** (Oct 21-25)
- Arucaria VHF Contest
- JARTS WW RTTY Contest
- 10-10 Fall CW QSO Party
- Iowa QSO Party
- New York QSO Party
- Worked All Germany
- Stew Perry Warmup Contest--CW
- W/VE Islands QSO Party
- Telephone Pioneer QSO Party
- Spooky Feld-Hell Sprint
- Asia-Pacific Sprint--CW
- Illinois QSO Party
- Run For the Bacon--CW (Oct 21)

You can find more information about the contests here <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/weeklycont.php>

We are currently working on this year's Christmas Party plans. I do have a QTH in mind that we might be able to use, but if any of the club members would like to have 35-40 over folks for a gathering please let me know.

Please remember that the club's newsletter is only as good as the information Ron receives, so please take the time to submit any DX related stories, tall tales or musings of a madman (or crazy lady) to him for consideration. Thanks Ron for all you do!

73 & 88's to the pretty ones ~

Wild Bill, WB6BFG

"To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk" ~ Thomas Edison

Treasurers Report Ellen, N6UWW



Secretary's Report

As I was unable to attend the September club meeting due to my work schedule there is no official report. John NA6L e-mailed me the following synopsis: "There was no new business, no old business, no votes and the presentation was interesting all about working the new versions of deleted entities. The room was 100% full and a hand full of first timers."

Treasurer's Report

87 members

Statement Balance 9/30/2013 \$5120.43

Ellen, N6UWW

Editor's Ramblings

Ron, N0RR

Thanks to John K6AM, Larry N6NC, Wayne NN6R, Joe W6VNR, Jim W6YA, Jim W6YI and Jim K6ZH for their input this month.

I must admit that this is an ad-hoc column inspired by the 10m openings this month. They call 160m the "Top Band" but if you want to have fun working DX with modest power and an average antenna, 10m is the true "Top Band." I migrate to 10m the instant the SFI reaches 100 or greater and the K index is low because there are always surprises.

Last weekend, when the SFI was around 110 and the K index was 0, I'd classify propagation as "marginal" but eastern Europe was workable (RW6 & UW2) as well as many western EU, western Asia and African stations (LX, 4Z5 and FH8). As the day progressed eastern Asia and the Oceania was active in the Oceania Contest. I called conditions marginal because the openings were short duration with rapid QSB.

However, this past weekend with SFI = 140 and K=1, conditions were "good." The band opened just before sunrise and yielded a host of semi-rare DXCC entities, including 3B9, EU, HB0, TA, TF, TN, and ZD8 with very little QSB. I know of no other band where you can work SA, EU, AS and the Indian Ocean within minutes of each other just by spinning the transceiver dial. I would bet that you could have worked DXCC between October 1 and the 20th this year.

So what's the point? My message is that even if you live in a location with deed restrictions and/or CC&Rs or Poway, a 10m dipole is only 16.5 feet long and a 1/4 wave vertical or ground plane antenna is only 8 feet tall. Even raising something in the early morning or late afternoon can result in tremendous progress toward DXCC or just a lot of fun when this band is open.

Just remember that the experts tell us that the peak of cycle 24 is history and we are moving toward the sun spot minimum, when 10m is dead, except for CP, CX, KL7, KH6, LU, PY, VE, YV and an occasional VP8.

Ron, N0RR

CW is not just a mode, it is a way of life.

SDDXC TOP 10 (Expanded Version)

By John, K6AM

CURRENT COUNTRIES CONFIRMED ON PHONE

10/13	10/12	CALL	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG		10/13	10/12	CALL	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1	1	W6YI	340	359	359	-		11	10	W6YA	332	?	?	-
2	2	K6AM	340	349	349	+1		12	13	WA6MHZ	329	339	339	-
3	4	K9RHY	339	350	350	-		13	15	W6ZZ	323	350	351	-
4	3	K6GAK	338	365	365	-		14	16	K5OA	323	341	342	+4
5	6	W6YOO	338	347	347	+1		15	18	K0XB	318	325	330	+4
6	5	NN6K	337	339	339	-		16	17	K6KT	317	339	339	-
7	8	N0RR	336	357	357	+2		17	19	N6XT	314	320	323	-
8	7	W6CN	336	349	349	-		18	20	WN6K	310	319	334	+8
9	12	K6ZH	334	343	343	+4		19	-	N6VS	302	306	307	New
10	9	N6CW	332	350	350	-		20	-	NG6Z	291	292	295	New

We're lookin' at the top 20 in this category to accommodate the larger number of entries. The top 10 stays pretty stable with the leaders jockeying for position and Jim, K5ZH finally slipping into the left hand column. Elsewhere, Paul, WN6K posts the best jump with 8 more C-D and 10 more WKD. Silent keys K6QS and N6ND transfer to the record books with final totals of 331 and 328 respectively, and we welcome N6VS and NG6Z into the fray. Send me your updates when those cards come in so you won't get left in the dust. There's still plenty of room for more shakeup in the second ten, so you guys get out there and have some fun.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, CW, 10/40M and 80/20M. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

SDDXC RESULTS 2013 CQ WPX PHONE DX CONTEST

CLASS	CALL	SCORE	QSO'S	MLTS	FINISH
SO HP ALL	ZF2AH (W6VNR)	6,067,328	2,821	886	#12 N.A.
SA HP ALL	KY6LA	297,018	368	261	#9 W6
SA HP ALL	AF6WF	63,520	179	160	
SA HP ALL	K5OA/6	60,882	179	146	
SA HP ALL	K6KAL	50,596	161	139	
SO LP ALL	WN6K	777,920	896	442	#1 W6
SO LP ALL	NN3V/6	90,695	200	187	#9 W6
MULTI-ONE	NX6T (ops N6KI N6ERD, AF6WF)	3,242,059	1,699	733	#1 W6, #11 N.A.



How's DX?

This page consists of historical data so members can share information or brag about their accomplishments. For real time info, monitor the club 2m spotting frequency, 144.415 MHz. For future DX info subscribe to the ARRL weekly DX bulletin and/or W3UR's newsletter.

DX worked by SDDXC members during late September and early October

Station	Band	Date	Time	By	Station	Band	Date	Time	By
3B8DB	12 CW	27-Sep	1647	NN6R	HZ1XB	15 CW	29-Sep	1541	NN6R
3B9FR	20 CW	13-Oct	0203	NN6R	J28NC	21 CW	27-Sep	1512	NN6R
4Z5FW	10 CW	12-Oct	1533	N0RR	J28NC	17 CW	13-Oct	1807	W6YI
5A1AL	10 CW	28-Sep	1553	N0RR	JD1BHA	12 CW	14-Oct	0159	W6YI
5X1NH	20 CW	14-Oct	1502	NN6R	JT1CO	10 CW	13-Oct	0043	N0RR
5X8EW	30	17-Oct	0356	W6YA	JY9FC	12 CW	13-Oct	1531	NN6R
9H1EJ	12 CW	14-Oct	1715	W6YI	JY9FC	12 CW	13-Oct	1554	W6YI
9K2HN	15 SSB	6-Oct	1526	NN6R	LY2IJ	10 CW	13-Oct	1644	W6YI
9M6ZAE	10 CW	13-Oct	0039	N0RR	SU9AF	15 CW	6-Oct	1522	NN6R
9X0ZM	12 CW	16-Oct	1736	W6YI	TN2MS	40 CW	19-Oct	0105	N0RR
A71AM	15 SSB	13-Oct	1408	W6YI	TN2MS	20, 15	Oct	0000	W6YA
C82DX	40 CW	15-Oct	0345	N0RR	TO2TT	10 CW	6-Oct	1614	N0RR
C82DX	40,30,20	Oct	00 - 03	W6YA	TO2TT	80 CW	8-Oct	0132	N0RR
CY0P	15 CW	1-Oct	2114	W6YI	TO2TT	20	15-Oct	0440	W6YA
CY0P	80 CW	2-Oct	0336	W6YI	TO2TT/FH	12 CW	13-Oct	1657	W6YI
EA9UG	10 CW	14-Oct	1736	W6YI	TX5D	10 SSB	6-Oct	2005	N0RR
FK8IK	10 CW	12-Oct	0048	N0RR	TX5D	80 CW	10-Oct	0611	N0RR
FR/DJ7RJ	80 CW	17-Oct	0137	N0RR	UW2ZO	10 CW	12-Oct	1441	N0RR
FR/DJ7RJ	80,40,30,20	Oct	varies	W6YA	VR2UW	10 CW	12-Oct	0016	N0RR
FR5EC	21 SSB	27-Sep	1535	NN6R	YD1JZ	10 CW	13-Oct	0008	N0RR
HB0/DL2SBY	30 CW	4-Oct	0202	W6YI	ZA6BAF	10 SSB	12-Oct	1759	W6YI
HB0/HB9CVQ	12 CW	13-Oct	1537	W6YI	ZD7VC	20 SSB	7-Oct	2302	W6YI
HZ1BW	12 SSB	13-Oct	1505	NN6R					

CHECK YOUR LOGS

It's time once again to recognize those of you who have made outstanding DX achievements during the year. Please check your logs and let me know if you worked your 331st current country or more than 20 all time new countries during 2012. Send your totals to k6am at arrl dot net.

Hi

A note that I will be heading to my other home in the Cayman Islands and staying till XMAS. To work JA friends of course!----and the contests except for CQWW CW--where K6AM takes it on as usual. Then I go fly fishing!

Joe, w6vnr, zf2ah, JH1KTY, etc.

DX Clubbers Score Big in CQP from Imperial County

For the 11th year in a row, the Imperial Contest Group operated from the Desert View Tower in Imperial County during the recent CQP contest. This year's ops were Bud N7CW, Jim K6ZH, Paul NN6X, and SDDXC President Dan N6ERD; plus Dave N6EEG who helped with setup.

They entered in the Multi-Op / Single-Station High-Power County Expedition category. The group made over 2000 Qs with all 58 possible multipliers for a claimed score of 295K. The group holds the record for this entry category (made in 2011), and thinks this year's effort will be competitive. The group owns and uses the antenna trailer that formerly belonged to Harvey K6QK (SK). And they use Harv's call in his memory. You can see the 'rest of the story' about this on-going CQP effort from Imperial County on N7CW's webpage: <http://www.n7cw.com/about4.html>



Back: Paul NN6X, Dan N6ERD
Front: Bud N7CW, Jim K6ZH



The group with antenna trailer.
Desert View Tower in background

K6ZH & N7CW heading to OA for CQ WW CW

Jim K6ZH and Bud N7CW are heading for Peru in mid-November to operate in the CQ WW CW contest. They will be staying with and operating from the QTH of Jack N6XQ (a.k.a. OA4TT) a long-time SDDXC member who spends most of his time in Peru.

They plan a multi-single high power entry. They hope to have a few days prior to the contest to operate 'free-style' on various bands and modes to help give out OA contacts. A special callsign for the contest has been requested but, as of yet, not confirmed. Outside of the contest they expect to be on as OA4/K6ZH and OA4/N7CW. Plan to work 'em to fill in any band-country or mode slots that you need.

This page is the “cheat sheet” for Larry’s October presentation

SKIMMER AND RBN ACCESS

1. N6NC CW Skimmer aggregator files (show all decoded call signs, not just CQers) to examine overnight 40m propagation:

RUN

CMD

“telnet n6ncskimmer.ath.cx 7550” (without quotes)

2. N6NC CW Skimmer on line (Real time, CQers only):

RUN

CMD

“telnet n6ncskimmer.ath.cx 7300” (without quotes)

3. WA7LNW CW Skimmer (Real time, CQers only; mile high in radio quiet Utah):

RUN

CMD

“telnet 208.65.3.250 7300” (without quotes)

3. RBN Raw Data csv files by date (to parse with database software):

MS Access, or

Libre Office [freeware: <http://www.libreoffice.org/download/?type=mac-x86>)]:

Link to RBN: http://www.reversebeacon.net/raw_data/

Click: DX Spots

Click: RBN Raw Data, chose month and date for download.



With a little help from his friends, Marko, N5ZO, is getting ready to make a lot of QRM from his new QTH in Escondido.

